

**Washington, D.C.** - Congressman John Barrow (GA-12) is encouraging all Georgia residents to observe "Earth Hour," this Saturday, March 28, 2009, from 8:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Along with Congresswoman Judy Biggert (IL-13), Barrow recently introduced H. Res. 268, a resolution "recognizing and supporting the goals and ideals of Earth Hour 2009."

"This is a great example of how a relatively easy act for one family, turning off the lights, multiplied by millions worldwide, can have a positive impact by raising awareness about climate change," said Barrow. "Maybe it'll also remind folks to turn off lights in their houses when they leave a room or go out for the day, which is good for the environment, and good for the electric bill!"

On March 28, 2009, at 8:30 p.m., millions of people around the world will join together to turn off their lights for one hour - Earth Hour - to raise awareness about climate change. Communities, individuals, businesses, and organizations will turn off non-essential lighting and cast a visual vote for education, awareness, and action on this important issue.

Earth Hour began in 2007 in Sydney, Australia, where more than 2.2 million people turned off their lights. Last year, World Wildlife Fund (WWF) took Earth Hour global and more than 50 million people in more than 400 cities on all seven continents participated, darkening some of the world's most famous skylines and icons, including the Empire State Building, the Golden Gate Bridge, the Sears Tower, and the Roman Coliseum. Even Google's homepage went dark for the day.

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This year, more than 600 cities in some 78 countries already have signed up to participate,

with more joining each day. The event itself will begin in Fiji, and will spread across Asia, the Middle East, Africa, Europe, and North and South America - with Hawaii as the final stop.

“I hope folks in the 12th District take advantage of the unique opportunity to be part of this effort. It's a great opportunity to spend some time with your family free of the distractions of the day.”

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